

SEP 19 2006

REMARKS

Claims 19, 22, 24 and 27 have been amended.

The Examiner has rejected applicants' claims 19-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Shimada patent (U.S. Patent No. 5,640,171) in view of the Takebe reference (JP 04-314221 A). Claims 21 and 26 have also been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) based on the latter two references taken with the Yokoi, et al. patent (U.S. Patent No. 5,864,346). With respect to applicants' claims, as amended, these rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicants' independent claim 19 has been amended to better define applicants' invention. More particularly, claim 19 recites a display apparatus comprising: a display unit adapted to display an image; a time setting unit adapted to set a time for switching said display unit from a three dimensional display to a two dimensional display, the time to be set by said time setting unit can be changed by a user; a detection unit adapted to detect whether a predetermined the time set by said time setting unit is passed; and a 2D/3D switching unit adapted to switch said display unit from the three dimensional display to the two dimensional display, if said detection unit detects that the predetermined time set by said time setting unit is passed. Applicants' independent method claim 24 has been similarly amended.

Such a construction is not taught or suggested by the cited art of record. The Examiner has acknowledged that the Shimada patent, while disclosing switching by a mode signal from a 3D to a 2D mode, does not also teach or suggest "a detection unit adapted to detect whether a predetermined time has passed to switch a mode from a 3D to a 2D mode."

The Examiner, however, now cites the Takebe reference as teaching "a detection unit adapted to detect whether a predetermined time has passed" and argues that this teaching when viewed in light of the Shimada patent would result in the invention of applicants' claims.

Applicants disagree. More particularly, the Takebe patent teaches a radio selective calling receiver in which a "decoder drives a lighting section 18 and counts a predetermined time and when the operation switch 24 is not operated, the time count is expired to turn off the lighting section 18." Thus, the teaching in the Takebe reference is to turn off a display via a decoder when an operation switch has not been operated to conserve energy.

The Takebe reference, therefore, has nothing to do with changing a display from a 3D to 2D display. Moreover, even assuming that Shimada patent could be viewed in light of the Takebe reference, it would at most suggest to the skilled artisan that the Shimada display be turned off after a certain time to conserve power, and not that the display be changed from a 3D to a 2D display. Additionally, there is no teaching or suggestion in the Takebe reference of a time setting unit that can be changed by a user.

As to the Yokoi, et al. patent, applicants' comments in applicants' previous amendment continue to apply. More particularly, the Yokoi, et al. patent only discloses counting a predetermined period of time in order to determine whether to interrupt a game. In the Yokoi, et al. patent, the game is interrupted so that the user is prevented from getting fatigued by a long continuous operation. The game is interrupted for a set time and the user is then asked whether the game should be restarted or stopped, and the appropriate action occurs depending on the user's selection.

Accordingly, after the set time of the interruption, a display 21 in Yokoi, et al. patent is not switched from a 3D display to a 2D display, but instead a game is continued or stopped.

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SEP 19 2006

Thus, the Yokoi, et al. patent does not detect whether a predetermined period of time passes in order to switch a display from a 3D display to a 2D display.

Moreover, viewing Shimada patent, the Takebe reference and the Yokoi, et al. patent together would simply not result in applicants' claimed invention. The combination at most might suggest interrupting the image display system in the Shimada patent for a set period of time to avoid the fatigue of the user of the system, or turning off the display after a predetermined time to conserve power, but there would no motivation to switch from a 3D display to a 2D display based on a detection unit detecting the time set by a time setting unit is passed.

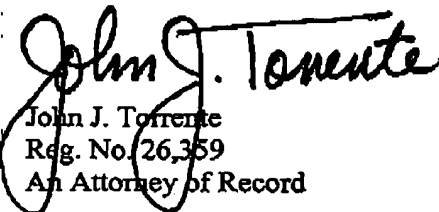
For all of the above reasons, applicants' amended claims 19 and 24, and their respective dependent claims, all of which recites such features, patentably distinguish over the Shimada patent, the Takebe reference and the Yokoi, et al. patent.

In view of the above it is submitted that applicants' claims, as amended, patentably distinguish over the cited art of record. Accordingly, reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

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